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## Newsletter - 1970-12-10

E. De la Garza

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From: Kika de la Garza

WASHINGTON, D C---It was Lucille's and my privilege to be guests of the Mexican Government and their Inaugural Committee at the festivities accompanying the inauguration of their new President, His Excellency Luis Echeverria Alvarez. We were greatly honored to accept this invitation in behalf of the people of the 15th District whom we are privileged to represent.

There was a formal presentation of credentials to the Minister of Foreign Affairs by the chiefs of the special missions to the inaugural, and a luncheon hosted by the Mayor of Mexico City and Mrs Corona del Rosal in honor of the special delegations, the diplomatic corps and officials guests on Saturday.

Monday again saw the same group presenting their credentials and, of course, greetings and many expressions of "well done" to our good friend, President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz.

On Tuesday at 11 AM was the solemn moment when the transition was made and to the honor and glory of Mexico and the Mexican people a new President assumed the duties as leader of a great and valiant people in a demonstration of solidarity. In too few countries, regrettably, is this now possible; that the people speak by the use of the ballot box, and their wishes are honored and respected.

Afterwards President and Mrs Echeverria received all of the special missions, the diplomatic corps and the special guests, followed by a gala luncheon. Finally, we had the honor of attending a reception hosted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives in honor of all the visiting Senators and Representatives. We were happy to visit with our many friends and colleagues.

It was all very impressive and we were happy to be a part of such a great occasion for our friends from across the Rio Grande. We wish the new President well, and it is our fervent prayer that the amicable relations between our two countries will never falter, and that the love, admiration and respect which exists between our two peoples may prosper and grow in the years to come.

\* \* \*

GOODBYE TO A FRIEND---South Texas will lose a faithful friend when House Speaker John W McCormack retires from office at the end of this session of Congress. After 42 years of service in the House of Representatives, Speaker McCormack decided not to seek re-election this year.

The Speaker hails from Boston, but his New England background never caused him to be anything less than wholly sympathetic to the problems of our own area. Besides having served as Democratic leader with the late beloved Sam Rayburn and succeeding him as Speaker sort of made him a Texan by adoption---often he mentioned the "Austin to Boston" alliance. Many times since I entered the House I have gone to him to discuss legislative matters of special interest to South Texas and never once did he fail to listen with interest and understanding. And he did more than listen---he acted. He has been always considerate and always helpful. I consider him my personal friend and a friend of the 15th District. And both of us having a little Irish blood I often reminded him "that we Irish have to stick together." We will miss him. His retirement will be the country's loss, but he and his lovely wife of 50 years deserve some time to themselves which they have so well earned. We wish them well and all South Texas says gracias, Mr Speaker.

\* \* \*

EDUCATION PAYS---Convincing evidence of a link between earnings and level of education is shown in results of a new survey by the U S Census Bureau recently made available to me. The Census figures reveal not only that college graduates earn more than people with high school diplomas but also that income rises for each year of schooling from elementary grades to graduate level. Here are the average annual earnings by year of school; less than eight years, \$3,981; eight years, \$5,467; one to three years of high school, \$6,769; four years of high school, \$8,148; one to three years of college, \$9,397; four years of college, \$12,418; five or more years of college, \$13,555.

These figures raise a warning flag to any South Texas student who is thinking of dropping out of school. For your own sake, don't do it!

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VISITORS---Among the visitors to my office this week was Jimmy Raulston of Brownsville.

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